

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (cancelled).

Claim 2 (currently amended): ~~The method of claim 1~~ A method for performing segmented resource reservation, comprising:

reserving, for at least one call, network resources associated with a first network according to its own reservation policy and based on an indication from a calling party; and

reserving, for the at least one call, network resources associated with a second network according to its own reservation policy and based on an indication from a called party, the second network being coupled to the first network, wherein:

the indication from the calling party being a setup message sent from (the) originating interface unit to (the) originating gate controller,

the indication from the called party being a setup message sent from (the) terminating interface unit to (the) terminating gate controller.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The method of claim 12, wherein:

the indication from the calling party being a first setup message indicating a maximum limit for network resources within the first network to be reserved,

the indication from the called party being a second setup message indicating a maximum limit for network resources within the second network to be reserved.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The method of claim 12, wherein:

the first network and the second network are coupled through a third network,

the indication from the calling party being a first setup message indicating a maximum limit for network resources within the first network and within the third network to be reserved,

the indication from the called party being a second setup message indicating a maximum limit for network resources within the second network and within the third network to be reserved.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The method of claim 42, wherein:
the reservation policy for the first network differing from the reservation policy
for the second network.

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Claim 6 (currently amended): The method of claim 42, wherein:
the first network is an access network,
the second network is a backbone network connected to the first network,
the reservation policy for the first network relates to the reservation of network
resources on a per call basis,
the reservation policy for the second network relates to the reservation of network
resources on a multiple call basis.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The method of claim 42, wherein:
the first network is an access network,
the second network is a backbone network connected to the first network,
the reservation policy for the first network relates to the reservation of network
resources on a per call basis,
the reservation policy for the second network relates to the reservation of network
resources on a per call basis.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The method of claim 42, wherein:
the reservation policy for the first network relates to bidirectional capacity within
the first network,
the reservation policy for the second network relates to a uni-directional capacity
within the second network.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The method of claim 42, wherein:
the reservation policy for the first network relates to bidirectional capacity within
the first network,
the reservation policy for the second network relates to a bidirectional capacity
within the second network.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The method of claim 42, wherein:
the first network is a first access network associated with a calling party for one
call and connected to a backbone network,

the second network is a second access network associated with a called party for the one call and connected to the backbone network,
the reservation policy for the first network relates to the reservation of network resources for the one call,
the reservation policy for the second network relates to the reservation of network resources for the one call.

Claim 11 (original): A method for performing segmented resource allocation, comprising:

receiving a setup message from an interface unit, the setup message indicating a maximum limit of network resources to be reserved;
receiving a reserve message from the interface unit; and
reserving, for one call, network resources associated with a first network according to its own reservation policy based on the received setup message and after receiving the reserve message, the interface unit being connected to the first network, the reservation policy for the first network relating to bidirectional capacity within the first network.

Claim 12 (original): The method of claim 11, further comprising:

sending a backbone reserve message to a second network coupled to the first network,
network resources associated with the second network being reserved for at least the one call according to the second network's own reservation policy based on the backbone reserve message.

Claim 13 (original): The method of claim 11, further comprising:

sending a backbone reserve message to a second network coupled to the first network,
network resources associated with the second network being reserved for at least the one call according to the second network's own reservation policy based on the backbone reserve message,
the reserved network resources associated with the second network being network resources for a forward direction of the call.

Claim 14 (original): The method of claim 11, wherein:

network resources associated with a second network being reserved for the one call according to the second network's own reservation policy and based on a second setup

message and a second reserve message received from a second interface unit coupled to the second network.

Claim 15 (original): The method of claim 11, further comprising:

sending a backbone reserve message to a second network coupled to the first network, network resources associated with the second network being reserved for at least the one call according to the second network's own reservation policy based on the backbone reserve message, the reserved network resources associated with the second network being network resources for a first direction of the call,

network resources associated with a third network being reserved for the one call according to the third network's own reservation policy and based on a second setup message and a second reserve message received from a second interface unit coupled to the second network, the third network being coupled to the first network through the second network,

a second set of network resources associated with the second network being reserved for at least the one call based on a second backbone reserve message sent from the second interface unit, the second set of reserved network resources associated with the second network being in a second direction of the call,

the second direction being from the second interface unit towards the first interface unit, the first direction being from the first interface unit to towards the second interface unit.

Claim 16 (original): A method for performing segmented resource reservation, comprising:

receiving a reserve message from an interface unit;

reserving, for one call, network resources associated with a first network according to its own reservation policy;

selecting a reservation policy from a plurality of reservation policies associated with a second network, a network edge device connecting the first network to the second network; and

sending a backbone reserve message to the second network based on the selected backbone reservation policy, network resources associated with the second network being reserved based on the sent backbone reserve message that indicates the selected reservation policy.

Claim 17 (original): The method of claim 16, wherein:

the reservation policy for the first network defines a bidirectional capacity within the first network,

the reservation policy for the second network defines a uni-directional capacity within the second network.

Claim 18 (original): The method of claim 16, wherein:

the reservation policy for the first network defines a bidirectional capacity within the first network,

the reservation policy for the second network defines a bidirectional capacity within the second network.

Claim 19 (original): The method of claim 16, wherein:

the set of reservation policies associated with the second network includes a reservation policy that reserves network resources within the second network on a per-call basis.

Claim 20 (original): The method of claim 16, wherein:

the set of reservation policies associated with the second network includes a reservation policy that reserves network resources within the second network on a multiple call basis.

Claim 21 (original): The method of claim 16, wherein:

the set of reservation policies associated with the second network includes a reservation policy that does not reserves network resources within the second network due to assumed bandwidth availability.

Claim 22 (original): The method of claim 16, wherein:

the network edge device is an originating network edge device, the interface unit is an originating interface unit, the originating network edge device is coupled to the originating interface unit,

the first network is an access network associated with the calling party,

the second network is a backbone network.

Claim 23 (original): The method of claim 16, wherein:

the network edge device is an terminating network edge device, the interface unit is an terminating interface unit, the terminating network edge device is coupled to the terminating interface unit,

the first network is an access network associated with the called party,
the second network is a backbone network.

Claim 24 (original): The method of claim 16, wherein:

the reservation policy for the first network relates to bidirectional capacity over
the first network,
the reservation policy for the second network relates to a first uni-directional
capacity.